

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An accounting apparatus comprising:  
input means for inputting money information  
indicating an amount of money; and  
5 judging means for judging the money information  
input from said input means and outputting a permission  
signal for permitting a use of information provided by  
an information provider.

10 2. An apparatus according to claim 1, wherein  
said judging means judges the money information in  
accordance with the money information and use charge  
information added to the provided information.

15 3. An apparatus according to claim 1, wherein  
said money information is cash.

20 4. An apparatus according to claim 1, wherein  
said money information is recorded in a recording  
medium.

5. An information receiving apparatus for  
receiving information provided by an information  
provider, comprising:

25 input means for inputting money information  
indicating an amount of money; and  
judging means for judging the money information

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6. An information receiving apparatus according to claim 5, wherein said judging means judges the money information in accordance with the money information and use charge information added to the provided information.

8. An information receiving apparatus according to claim 5, wherein said money information is recorded in a recording medium.

10. A communication system comprising:  
an information provider terminal for providing  
information;  
a user terminal for receiving and using  
information provided by said information provider

terminal; and

an accounting unit inputted with money information and having judging means for judging the input money information, and outputting a permission signal for permitting a use of information provided by an information provider.

11. A communication system according to claim 10, wherein said judging means judges the money information in accordance with the money information and use charge information added to the provided information.

12. A communication system according to claim 10, wherein said money information is cash.

13. A communication system according to claim 10, wherein said money information is recorded in a recording medium.

14. A communication system according to claim 10, further comprising communication means for transmitting use information of the provided information.

15. A communication system according to claim 14, further comprising a charge distributor terminal for transmitting charge distribution information to said information provider terminal in accordance with the

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second data includes a use charge, and said judging means judges a use permission of the information by comparing the amount of money and the use charge.

5           20. A device according to claim 18, wherein said first data includes data indicating the type of a recording medium in which said first data is recorded, and said judging means judges a use permission of the information in accordance with the data indicating the  
10 type.

21. A device according to claim 18, further comprising means for rewriting the amount of money in response to a judgement operation of said judging  
15 means.

22. A device according to claim 18, further comprising means for outputting a use state of the information to the external of the device in response  
20 to a judgement operation of said judging means.

23. A device according to claim 22, further comprising means for rewriting the amount of money in response to a judgement operation of said judging means, and means for notifying a use state of the  
25 information to the external of the device, synchronously with the operation of said rewriting means.

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